

COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES
January 23, 2025
6:08 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Regular meeting of the Cotter City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken by Mayor Caradine. Present were: Council Members Chuck Sugg, Joe Bass, Mertice Kray, Ang Pereira, and Linda McCarthy. Council Member Carolyn Gill was absent.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Mertice Kray followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by all present.

REPORTS

In the first order of New Business, Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to accept the minutes of the special hearing of the City of Cotter, Arkansas, City Council held on January 23, 2025, with noted corrections with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed with Councilwoman Ang Pereira abstaining as she was not on Council during this meeting.**

In the second order of New Business Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to accept the minutes of a regular meeting of the City of Cotter, Arkansas, City Council held on January 23, 2025, with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed with Councilwoman Ang Pereira abstaining as she was not on Council during this meeting.**

December Financials were included in the packets
Public Works Department Report was given by Mayor Caradine
Fire Department Report was given by Chief Lyle Jack
Police Department Report was given by Chief Travis Hopson
Building Permit Report was given by Andrea Kray
Planning & Zoning Commission Report was given by Mayor Caradine
Cotter/Gassville Sewer Commission was given by Mayor Caradine
Tree Advisory Board Report-none at this time

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-25: A Resolution to Adopt the Operating Budget for Year 2025. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2024-25: A Resolution to Adopt the Operating Budget for Year 2025 with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the second order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-02: A Resolution establishing a Cotter City Council Member code of conduct. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to pass Resolution #2025-02: A Resolution establishing a Cotter City Council Member code of conduct with a second provided by Councilwoman Linda McCarthy. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the third order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-03: A Resolution establishing a Cotter City Council Member code of meetings /activities. Councilwoman Ang Pereira moved to pass Resolution #2025-03: A Resolution establishing a Cotter City Council Member code of meetings /activities with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-04: A Resolution to approve destruction of certain outdated documents. Councilman Joe Bass moved to pass Resolution #2025-04: A Resolution to approve destruction of certain outdated documents with a correction to the certification

attachment correcting a typo with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fifth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-05: A Resolution to Issue a Request for Proposal for Hire CPA to conduct an Audit of Federal Funds. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution #2025-04: A Resolution to approve destruction of certain outdated documents with noted corrections and with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the sixth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-06: A Resolution amending the 2019 Employee Personnel Handbook. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution #2025-06: A Resolution Amending the 2019 Employee Personnel Handbook with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the seventh order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2025-07: A Resolution to purchase another vehicle for the police department. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution #2025-07: A Resolution to purchase another vehicle for the police department with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.**

INFORMATION

During Information, Mayor Caradine stated the Elected Officials serving 2023-2024 term need to turn in a Statement of Financial Interest to Cotter Recorder/Treasurer by January 31, 2025. He also shared the Cotter Council Members Assigned as Liaison to Committees/Organizations will be posted on City's website. He read into Meeting minutes Proof of Posting of the 2025 Operating Budget was posted for 30 days from December 20, 2025 – January 20, 2025 as well as read into Meeting Minutes Proof of Posting of the final revenues and expenditures for 2024, Year End Amended Budget shall be posted at City Hall and the Post office on Jan 24th for 30 days. The Cotter Volunteer Fire Department is tentatively scheduled for March 1, 2025, at the Firehouse. The Annual Cotter Trout Festival is Saturday, May 3, 2025. Coffee with the Mayor shall be on February 21, 2025 at 8:00 am at Cotter Bridge Market.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

None at this time.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Debbie Gamble loved Christmas in Cotter! There was 312 presents given away and Mayor Caradine thanked all the behind the scene workers for making the event a success.

Lyle Jack shared that 2 Firefighters are currently in EMT school and should be certified by May. He mentioned that 2 people received a partial grant of \$800.00 to cover costs associated with the courses.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg congratulated Andrea Kray on her 10 years of service as the Recorder/Treasurer to the City of Cotter. He is also glad that Chief Travis Hopson is back.

Councilman Joe Bass stated that the employees of the City of Cotter are top notch and very personable and professional. He is also glad that Chief Travis Hopson is back.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray thought everything was very nice and thanks the audience for attending. She appreciates all the departments as they work together to make the City great! She is glad to have Chief Travis Hopson back as well.

Councilwoman Ang Pereira congratulated Andrea Kray and stated that when she moved here in 2023 she was very welcomed by the community. She enjoys the town and is excited to work with everyone.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy welcomes Ang Pereira and knows she'll be a great addition to the Council. She also congrats Andrea Kray on her years of service.

Mayor Caradine appreciates all the hard work of the Council. He thanked Ang Pereira for running and Joe Bass for fulfilling a term and running again. He knows that Council is hard work and appreciates everyone's dedication to the city. He also thanks Andrea Kray for her 10 years of service.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray